EXTRACTS

FROM

THE MINUTES

OF

NEW ENGLAND YEARLY MEETING

OF

FRIENDS.

1856.

PROVIDENCE:
KNOWLES, ANTHONY & CO. PRINTERS.
1856.

MINUTES.

At the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, held on Rhode Island, commencing with public meetings for worship at Newport and Portsmouth, on first day the 15th; and for discipline at Newport on second day morning, the 16th of sixth month, 1856.

By the Reports received from our Quarterly Meetings, it appears that the following Friends have been appointed Representatives to this meeting, viz:

From Rhode Island—Rowland Greene, David Buffum, Samuel Boyd Tobey, Thomas S. Gifford, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, Timothy C. Collins, Jonathan Freeborn, Josiah Chace and Perez Peck.

From Salem—Estes Newhall, Josiah D. Challis, Stephen A. Chase, Enoch Page, Abijah Johnson, Nathan Breed of Lynn, Samuel Boyce, Thomas Folsom, Moses F. Rogers and Nowell Ordway.

From Sandwich—William P. Howland, Isaac R. Gifford, Calvin Shepherd, David Kelley, Stephen Dillingham, George Easton, George Almy, Newell Hoxie, Charles R. Tucker and Daniel Macomber.

From Falmouth—Thomas Jones, John Buffum, Abram Winslow, Joseph Hawks, Harrison Magoon, Henry M. Minott and Josiah Winslow.

From Smithfield—Thomas Grover, John Osborne, James N. Fry, Charles Hadwen, Edward Earle and Albert S. Payson.

From Vassalboro'—John D. Lang, Edmund Cates, James Jones, Eli Jones, Levi Gardner, Timothy Hanson, Stephen Jones, Edmund Whitehouse, Ebenezer Frye and James Van Blarcum.

From Dover—Tobias Meader, Benajah Buffum, Isaiah Frye and John Estes.

From Fairfield—Samuel Taylor, Jr., Alden Sampson, David Douglass, Levi Jones, Charles M. Bailey and Moses Bailey—

whose names being called, they were all present except one, for whose absence a sufficient reason was rendered.

Having at this meeting the acceptable company of our beloved friends, Jared Patterson, of Walnut Ridge Monthly Meeting, Indiana; David H. Bennett, of Butternuts Monthly Meeting; Anna Adams, of Marlborough Monthly Meeting, New York; Rebecca T. Updegraff, of Short Creek Monthly Meeting, Ohio; Bersheba G. Herendeen, of Farmington Monthly Meeting, New York; Ann Kenworthy, of White Water Monthly Meeting; and Huldah H. Hoag, of East Grove Monthly Meeting, Indiana; certificates from their respective meetings, expressing unity with them as ministers and with their present religious engagements, were presented and read.

We have also the acceptable company of our beloved friends, Ira Lapham, accompanying our friend Bersheba G. Herendeen; Henry Bull, companion to our friend David H. Bennett, William Kenworthy, as companion to his wife Ann Kenworthy; William Hill, companion to our friend Jared Patterson; Ephraim B. Ratliff, accompanying our friend Huldah H. Hoag, and David Updegraff, companion to his wife, Rebecca T. Updegraff, and have received and read satisfactory testimonals on their behalf from their several meetings.

The London General Epistle for 1855 has been read at this time, and we feel it to be pertinent and instructive, and commending it to the serious attention of our subordinate meetings and to Friends individually, we appoint our friends, William C. Taber and George Howland, Jun. to cause a reprint of 3500 copies to be forwarded to the Quarterly Meetings through the representatives.

Interesting and truly acceptable epistles, addressed to us by our beloved brethren of the Yearly Meetings of London, Ireland, New York, Baltimore, North Carolina, Ohio and Indiana, have been received and read, and our dear friends of these different meetings have been brought very near to us, under, we trust, the fresh flowings of gospel love. We appoint the following Friends to prepare essays of reply to these epistles, and present them to a future sitting of this Meeting, viz: Samuel Boyd Tobey, John Meader, Stephen A. Chase, Samuel Boyce, Thomas S. Gifford, Samuel Taylor, Jr., John D. Lang, William C. Taber, Alden Sampson, Eli Jones, Samuel Austin, Joseph H. Cole, James Van Blarcum, Gilbert Congdon, Edward Earle, Newell Hoxie, William A. Robinson, John Osborne, David Buffum, Caleb Jones, Charles R. Tucker, Richard Battey, Daniel Beede, Henry M. Minott, George Howland, Jr., Oliver Pope and Joseph Metcalf.

The several Quarterly Meetings inform that they have given the necessary attention to the payment of the stock directed to be raised by this meeting last year—and we appoint our friends Thomas Harkness, Micajah C. Pratt, William C. Taber, Henry M. Minott, John Milton Earle, Stephen Jones, Amos D. Purinton and Moses Bailey, to settle the Treasurer's account, propose a sum to be raised for the use of this meeting the present year, and the name of a Friend for Treasurer.

By the reports from the Quarterly Meetings, we are informed that *Salem* has united with Weare Monthly Meeting, in the appointment of Hannah Page and Sabina A. Page to the station of Elders, and that *Dover* has united with Dover

Monthly Meeting in the appointment of Phebe H. Meader to the same station.

Adjourned to 4 o'clock this afternoon.

Afternoon—met pursuant to adjournment.

Rowland Greene, on behalf of the Representatives, informed the Meeting that they had conferred together and were agreed in proposing Samuel Boyd Tobey for Clerk, and Stephen A. Chase for assistant Clerk, which being united with, they are appointed to those stations for the ensuing year.

The records of this meeting for last year, were now read.

The Boarding School Committee presented their annual report, which is satisfactory to this meeting, and the Friends now under appointment, are continued for another year to unite with a similar Committee of the women's meeting, in the care and superintendence of the School—and they are requested to report to this meeting next year.

The Report is as follows, viz:

"TO THE YEARLY MEETING.

The Committee for the superintendence of the Boarding School at Providence, have given attention to the objects of their appointment and now report—

That the school being vacated at the time of our last Yearly Meeting, the Committee were desired, as by minute of the Yearly Meeting, "to look towards the opening of the School at the commencement of the winter term, and to make arrangements, so far as may be practicable for such opening."

In pursuance of this conclusion, the Committee proceeded to consider what arrangements would best promote its objects, and on mature deliberation came to the following results, viz: That it is desirable and expedient in the proposed opening of the school, to provide—That the teaching in the schools shall be provided for by contract at a fixed rate to be hereafter agreed upon, the same to be made satisfactory to the Committee. That it is also further desirable and ex-

pedient, that the board of the scholars, should be provided for by contract, at a fixed price, under such regulations as may be established by the Committee, including all the domestic arrangements of the family.

The Committee were enabled to carry out these conclusions, substantially, by a contract entered into with Joseph Cartland, who, with his wife Gertrude W. Cartland, entered into an engagement to become the Principals and Superintendents of the School, to furnish the necessary assistant Teachers, and the board of the scholars, and to conduct the school in a manner that shall be satisfactory to the Committee, both as to Teachers that are employed by them, and in all other respects, and to pay all expenses that accrue from thus conducting the School.

For the purpose of carrying out this contract, it was agreed that they should have the use of the School premises, and that as compensation for the service required by the contract, they should receive the moneys paid for board and tuition of the scholars, have the use and improvement of the farm, and that they should further receive from the income of the School Fund, the sum of three thousand dollars per annum, to be paid them semi-annually, one-half at the close of each term.

Under this arrangement, the School was opened for the winter term on Fourth Day, 31st of 10th month last, and one hundred and fifty-seven pupils were then and subsequently admitted, and attended the school for the whole or part of the term; of whom eighty-three were males and seventy-four were females.

The assistant Teachers employed, were Timothy B. Hussey, Charles W. Earle, Elizabeth S. Jones, Anna McKeel, Parmelia C. Varney and Sarah E. Whittier, in the English branches; Joseph W. Congdon, Teacher of Greek, Latin, Natural Philosophy and Chemistry; Catherine E. Haase, Teacher of French, German, and Needle Work, and Marianna Stanton, Teacher of Drawing.

The various branches taught in the School, are indicated by

the above list of Teachers, and they embrace such as are believed to be most useful in fitting the pupils for the varied duties of life.

The Committee have exercised a constant supervision over the Institution in its various departments during the year, and since the opening of the School, have held meetings monthly, with the exception of one month, having sub-committees, appointed at each meeting for its more immediate care.

It is a source of much satisfaction to believe, that the Institution has been conducted in a manner to promote the objects of its establishment—that good order and harmony have generally prevailed, and that the progress of the scholars in their various studies has been satisfactory. Care has been taken to promote a knowledge of the Holy Scriptures and of our religious principles.

Meetings for worship on First Day mornings, have been held in the school house as heretofore—the scholars at other times attending the meeting of Friends, in Providence. In these meetings the conduct of the scholars has been becoming, and many of them have been seasons of much interest.

The examination at the close of the term, was attended by many of the members of the School Committee, by members of the Yearly Meeting's Committee on Education and other Friends. The exercises of the scholars gave evidence of attention and diligence on their part, and of faithfulness on the part of the Principals and assistant Teachers. There was evidence that much care had been extended to promote the objects of the Institution, in imparting a guarded education, and instilling into the minds of the children, the principles of morality and virtue. The close of the examination, furnished an interesting opportunity with the schools, which was marked by much solemnity, and we trust may be remembered by them in after time.

The health of the scholars has generally been preserved. One death has taken place. George M. Underhill, of New

York, a young Friend, who for several terms had been at the school, and who had, by his orderly and exemplary deportment, endeared himself to the officers of the Institution, died very suddenly of malignant sore throat. On this occasion, a religious meeting was held at the school, which was a solemn and favored season. After which the remains were conveyed to his friends.

The following minute was made by the Committee in reference to this event: "This renewed evidence of the uncertainty of time, has clothed our minds with feelings of deep solemnity and awakened increased desires that we may all give diligent heed to the injunction of our blessed Lord and Savior, 'Therefore be ye also ready, for in such an hour as ye think not, the son of man cometh.'"

The accounts of the Institution have been examined and audited. Those relating to the Charitable Fund, stand as follows, viz:

Receipts for the year, - - -	$455	00
Payments, for board and tuition of eight scholars,	320	00
" for due Treasurer from this fund last year, - - - -	8	75
Cash in Treasurer's hands at the close of the last term, applicable to the coming term, - - - -	126	25
	$455	00

The accounts relating to the general fund stand as follows, viz:

Receipts, from income of School Fund, -	$6,454	84
" from sundry small debts collected,	146	10
	$6,600	94

Payments, (exclusive of those provided to be paid by the Principals):

By Treasurer to C. W. Earle, while the school was vacated, for his services and for sundry expenditures on the farm, &c.*	$875 94
Insurance, $165. Interest, $228 46.	393 46
Repairs, furniture, &c.	1,485 55
To Joseph Cartland on contract,	1,500 00
	$4,254 95
Which deducted from the receipts leaves an excess of	$2,345 99

This sum has been applied towards the payment of the debts of the Institution.

These debts as reported last year were	$8,276 96
Of which there was due from the Charitable Fund, since paid from that fund	8 75
Leaving the debt against the general fund,	8,268 21
From which deduct the above excess of receipts over expenditures the past year,	2,345 99
Leaves the present debt against the general fund	$5,922 22

Under our present arrangements, it will be seen, that provision is made for the gradual payment of the debts of the Institution.

The attention of the Committee has been directed to the subject of a course of study, for such as wish the full benefit of a systematic education, to be continued through a period of four years. This course is not intended to interfere in any

* As an offset to this expenditure, it may be stated, that of the produce of the farm the past year, there remained on hand, when the school was opened last fall, sundry articles, valued at $1,233 39, which were taken by the Principal to be used in the Institution and for which he is to account.

degree with the instruction as heretofore given in the school, but to be applicable only to those who may wish to pursue it, and in this view, it has met with the approbation of the Committee.

We would propose that the charge per term of twenty-two weeks, for board and tuition be $40, for members of our Yearly Meeting;—$60 for members of other Yearly Meetings, and where one or both parents are members of our Religious Society, or are sent at the charge of members of our Religious Society;—and $100 for any others who may be admitted. That $5 per term additional charge continue to be made, for instruction either in the ancient languages, in French, or in Drawing;—Books and Stationery being furnished as heretofore at actual cost.

For certain regulations as heretofore agreed upon by the Yearly Meeting, respecting the times of payment, manner and times of the admission of scholars, &c., we refer to the accompanying circular, issued by the Committee in the seventh month last.

We commend the Institution to the continued interest and care of Friends.

Signed on behalf of the Committee—

STEPHEN A. CHASE, *Clerk.*"

Regulations referred to in the above report of the School Committee.

"As the number to be admitted is limited to eighty of each sex, it will be necessary that the Committee should be seasonably informed of all in this Yearly Meeting that desire to occupy places in the school, in order that they may determine how many others, if any, may be received.

Application should therefore be made for members of our Yearly Meeting, seasonably to be laid before the Committee at their Meetings to be held on Third Day, before the first Fifth Day in the 3d and 9th months—as heretofore determined by the Yearly Meeting.

At this Meeting applications for the admission of members of our Yearly Meeting will have precedence of all others.

After this time, applications for the admission of scholars will be considered in the order in which they are made.

Monthly Meetings desirous of occupying the privilege of the Charitable Fund, are requested to send their applications as heretofore, in season for the Meeting of the Committee in the 9th month, and to specify whether they desire it during the winter or succeeding summer term. And friends are requested to observe the various regulations adopted by the Yearly Meeting, in order for admission of scholars into the school.

It is desired that payment for each term be made in advance, but if in any case this is not practicable, one-half to be made at the commencement, and the balance at the middle of the term.

It is expected that scholars will be at the school punctually at the commencement of the term, but if circumstances occur to prevent such attendance, notice is to be forwarded to the Principals within one week of that time, stating whether or not their places are desired to be reserved for them. A failure to attend the school or to give the notice above specified shall be considered a relinquishment of the privilege unless again admitted by the Committee; and in all cases of children being admitted for the term, and attending the school, it is expected that payment will be made for the term.

Friends of pupils, and others, visiting the school, will in future be expected to defray the expense arising to the Institution.

Application for admission into the school, and for the benefit of the Charitable Fund are to be made to the Principals.

Address JOSEPH CARTLAND,
Principal Friends Boarding School, Providence, R. I.

Accompanying the Epistle, addressed to this Meeting by our Brethren of London Yearly Meeting, the following minute of that Meeting was received, viz:—

"YEARLY MEETING, 1855.

The circumstances of our Friends who come from America to this country in the work of the ministry, have again engaged our brotherly consideration. Whilst feeling the importance of in nowise interfering with the blessed guidance of the Spirit of Truth in their religious movements, this Meeting is of the judgment, that advantage would arise from our dear Friends proceeding to London as soon as may be after their arrival in this country, whenever they can conveniently do so, and feel it not incompatible with the pointings of duty; in order that, in accordance with the regulations of this Meeting, their certificates might be verified by the Meeting for sufferings, and an opportunity be at the same time afforded them, for attending the Morning Meeting of Ministers and Elders, and thus early partaking of the sympathy and aid of the members of that Meeting. But in offering this suggestion, we desire that our brethren and sisters from a distant land, travelling amongst us in the service of the Gospel, may continue to receive from Friends everywhere a large measure of kind assistance and Christian sympathy.

(Copy.) JAMES BOWDEN."

We have also received a statement of the proceedings of London Yearly Meeting, in relation to the late division in Ohio Yearly Meeting, which was read, and the views of true Church order, the feelings of Christian love, and the sound advice contained therein, were interesting and cordial to us, and the further disposition of this document is referred to the Meeting for Sufferings.

* * * * * *

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow morning.

THIRD DAY MORNING, the 17th, the Meeting convened according to adjournment. The Representatives all present.

The Meeting entered upon a consideration of the state of Society, by reading the queries and the answers received from the several Quarterly Meetings, and proceeded therein to the second inclusive. As in former years, it is sorrowfully apparent that there is not that practical acknowledgment of our dependence upon our Heavenly Father, which the careful attendance of all our religious meetings for His worship manifests before the world—and very solemn and impressive were the admonitions and entreaties of beloved, concerned brethren for greater faithfulness in this respect. It is evident that if we loved the Lord supremely, with all our heart, with all our mind, and with all our strength, we should not fail to render unto Him any sacrifice that He may require at our hands—and we should rejoice in the seasons set apart for waiting upon Him, when we may be favored to draw near unto Him and to enjoy, unworthy as we are, a sweet sense of his presence. We should love the habitation of the Lord, the place where his honor dwelleth—and rendering unto Him, the tribute of subdued and humble hearts, we should be enabled, in living faith, to look unto Him as a rewarder of all those that diligently seek Him. Brethren forsake not the assembling of yourselves together, was the exhortation of an apostle of the blessed Redeemer; and, also, that we should yield our bodies a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable unto Him which is our reasonable service. Did we feel, as it was mercifully manifested, the love of our blessed Saviour to the children of men—did we realize that through Him alone we can enter into the Kingdom of Heaven—that He is the door—that it is before Him we are to stand in the last day—that He is the Judge of quick and dead—that unto Him we are to render our account—we should be deeply engaged, at all times, and in every situation of our lives, to confess Him before men—to acknowledge Him, both in word and in deed, as our Master whom we delight to honor, and with a humble

hope that He will be graciously pleased to acknowledge us in that day before His Father and the holy angels. Love to God and love to man are inseparable. God is love, and he that dwells in God dwells in love. If we love Him whom we have not seen, we shall not fail to love our brother whom we have seen. Love is the badge of discipleship, and earnest has been the concern in this meeting that the blessed fellowship and love of the Gospel may increase and more and more abound among us; and we trust the prayer of the Church has been fervently raised that our members everywhere may be preserved in true love to God and love one unto another.

Adjourned to four o'clock, this afternoon.

Afternoon. Friends again assembled, and concluded the reading of the queries and answers.

During this engagement a solemn covering was felt to be spread over us—and a lively concern was manifested for the maintenance of all our testimonies in their purity, and with an enlightened understanding of their origin. The inestimable value of the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus, was feelingly dwelt upon, and Friends were tenderly exhorted and encouraged to the daily perusal of them with their families collected about them, and not to neglect the frequent reading of them in retirement with the heart reverently turned unto Him from whom they came that they may be opened to their understandings and tend to bring them unto Christ. The example of the early members of this religious Society in becoming acquainted with the Holy Scriptures, and the high value they placed upon them, were instructively adverted to, and Friends were earnestly recommended practically to follow them in this respect.

* * * * * *

In answering the Queries, our subordinate meetings are desired carefully to regard the advice heretofore given to be

full and explicit, and the Quarterly Meetings are requested in their annual answers for this Meeting to embrace not only the information received from the Monthly Meetings at the Quarter preceding the Yearly Meeting, but also a definite statement as to the maintenance of our meetings during the year, and that they take care to preserve the answers received at the three previous Quarters, for this purpose.

The Quarterly Meetings are requested annually to communicate to this Meeting the names of all Ministers and Elders who have deceased during the year, with the time of their decease, and ages, as far as practicable. The clerk is directed to furnish a copy of this minute to subordinate meetings.

We have at this Meeting the acceptable company of our beloved friend, Esther Hathaway, companion to our friend Bersheba G. Herendeen; and of Lydia Esther Knight, companion to our friend Huldah H. Hoag, and satisfactory minutes from their respective meetings have been now read.

The Committee on Correspondence is requested to prepare essays of returning minutes for our friends now in attendance of this meeting, with certificates from other Yearly Meetings, and present them at a future sitting.

The following proposition contained in the Report from Vassalboro' Quarterly Meeting is united with by this meeting, viz:—

"Received a communication from Fairfield Quarterly Meeting, uniting with us in a proposition for an alteration in the line between the two Meetings, by annexing the Town of Chester, on the west side of Penobscot River, to this Quarterly Meeting, which we submit to the judgment and determination of the Yearly Meeting."

The following information is contained in the Report from Salem Quarter, viz:—

At the request of Seabrook Monthly Meeting, this meeting has concluded that the Monthly Meeting heretofore held at Pittsfield, in the 10th month, be held in future at Epping; that the one held at Seabrook, in the 12th month, be held at

Amesbury, and that the one held at Amesbury in the 11th month, be held at Seabrook. All to be held at the same time as heretofore.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Fourth day morning, the 18th, Friends assembled pursuant to adjournment. The Representatives all present.

The Records of the Meeting for Sufferings for the past year were laid before us and read, and the proceedings of that Meeting in relation to the various important concerns that have claimed its attention, were approved by this Meeting, and the Friends now under appointment (with the exception of our friend Charles Atherton, removed from within the limits of this Yearly Meeting) are continued to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings for another year, to act, as heretofore, on behalf of this Meeting, according to the organization and appointment of that Meeting.

The following proposition from the Meeting for Sufferings, in relation to the manner of making additions to our Meetings of Ministers and Elders was weightily considered by this Meeting, and united with, and adopted as the discipline of our Meeting in this respect, (the women's meeting uniting therein,) viz:—

"In the appointment of Elders, the following order is to be observed:—

As these are officers of the Church at large, let the Monthly Meeting, after they have approved such as they adjudge duly anointed and qualified for that service, (the name or names having been introduced either through the preparative meeting of ministers and elders, or by a Committee appointed by the Monthly Meeting for that purpose) acquaint the Quarterly Meeting therewith, who, after solidly waiting for their concurring unity, and finding nothing to hinder, are to minute the same, and acquaint the select meeting thereof; who are also to enter the appointment on their minutes, and the friends so appointed may then sit in any of our meetings of ministers and elders. Information of such appointment is to be given

by the Quarterly Meeting to the Yearly Meeting, and by the Yearly Meeting, through its Clerk, to the Yearly Meeting of Ministers and Elders, and their names entered on the respective Records of those meetings.

The following order is to be observed in acknowledging the gift, and approving the public appearances of any Friend in the Ministry.

Where any Friend appears in public ministry whose conversation shall be clean and blameless, and the preparative meeting for ministers and elders, within the limits of which he or she belongs, is convinced that the Lord hath called them to that weighty work, it is then to lay the same before the Quarterly Meeting of Ministers and Elders, for its consideration, and when said Quarterly Meeting shall have united therein, without any record being made of its judgment, the said preparative meeting may lay the same before the Monthly Meeting, which, after weightily feeling after the mind of truth therein, and being united in approving him or her as a Minister in the Church, the same shall be recorded and sent forward in like manner as in the case of Elders.

Friends are advised in these proceedings to be weighty in their spirits and careful in their conversation, that no harm come to any from a disclosure before the time of what may be under the consideration of Friends; that all may be kept in the love and unity of the Gospel.

The Meeting for Sufferings is requested to cause an edition of our Book of Discipline to be printed, containing the regulations, which, from time to time, have been adopted by this Meeting, (with such revision of the language, not affecting the meaning, as it may deem proper,) and copies furnished to the various subordinate meetings.

The subject of a change of place for holding this Yearly Meeting, which, for a specified purpose, was referred to the Meeting for Sufferings, being now brought before us by the following minute from that Meeting, claimed the solid and deliberate consideration of this Meeting, in which there was a

manifestation of condescension, and tender regard of Friends one for another, and a desire for the full preservation of those bonds of Christian unity, which, we believe, now bind together the different members of this Yearly Meeting—and was without any dissenting expression adopted. It is as follows, viz:—

"The Committee to make legal inquiry whether the removal of our Yearly Meeting would invalidate the title to our trust property, presented the following report:—

'TO THE MEETING FOR SUFFERINGS.

The Committee appointed to make careful inquiry whether a change in the place of holding the sessions of our Yearly Meeting would in any way invalidate the title to the Trust Funds now in its possession, have attended to their appointment. They have procured the opinions of legal counsel on the question—which they have heretofore laid before the Meeting for Sufferings, and which have been read in that Meeting.

The result of their inquiries is, that there are doubts whether the removal contemplated, may not injuriously affect the title of the Yearly Meeting to the possession of the Trust Funds now held by that Meeting, unless additional legislation is procured from the Government of Rhode Island and perhaps from Massachusetts;—and such legislation it is thought it may be difficult, if not impracticable to obtain at the present time.

We would suggest for the consideration of the Meeting, whether it may not, under all the circumstances, be reasonable and best for Friends to look towards some arrangement, by which the travelling expenses of Friends attending the Yearly Meeting may be equalized.

On behalf of the Committee,

JOHN OSBORNE,
JOHN D. LANG.

Newport, 6th mo., 16th, 1856."

Which being read and approved, is accepted; and the Committee are released from further attention thereto—And this Meeting recommends to the Yearly Meeting, that measures be promptly taken whereby the suggestion made by the Committee, relative to making some arrangements by which the travelling expenses of Friends attending the Yearly Meeting may be equalized, may be carried out."

The Meeting for Sufferings is requested promptly to proceed in endeavoring to establish a fund, the income of which, may be appropriated towards equalizing the travelling expenses of Friends attending this Meeting, as contemplated in the minute of the Meeting for Sufferings which has been now adopted, and to take such other measures as may be necessary to carry into effect the purposes of that minute.

Adjourned to four o'clock this afternoon.

Afternoon—Met by adjournment.

The Committee on the concern of this Meeting for the Indians located West of the Mississippi, made the subjoined report, which is interesting and acceptable to us—and although way has not opened for much active service in the concern during the past year, the Committee, (with the exception of our friend, Charles Atherton, removed from our limits,) is continued under appointment and requested to act on our behalf, as way may open for it, and report to this Meeting next year, viz:—

"TO THE YEARLY MEETING.

The Committee upon the concern of the Yearly Meeting for the Indians West of the Mississippi River,

Report,—That during the past year, the Committee have been able to bestow little or no active service—yet they have not been unmindful of their appointment; but have sought information on the subject, and endeavored to ascertain if there was any way open for Friends to exert themselves for this much injured race, with any prospect of usefulness.

With respect to many of the more uncivilized tribes lying far west upon our continent, it is to be feared that they are being treated by the whites, who are now pressing eagerly over their lands, as the Indians were treated by some of the early emigrants on the eastern shores of the country, and that the same scenes of war and bloodshed are resulting, in which, as heretofore, the poor Indian is overborne and despoiled of his inheritance.

On the western border of our present organized States, are situated various remnants of tribes, who originally occupied the lands upon the Atlantic coast—these, in pursuance of the policy of our Government, have been removed to their present location under a pledge that the lands to which they were removed should be secured to them and their children "so long as the grass grows and the water runs." But this pledge is likely to fail. The land is wanted for the white man, and the Indian must give way. How sad and humiliating to contemplate these scattered remnants of a once powerful race of people, in undisputed possession of this broad land, now reduced to the comparatively small pittance of their former possessions, and even this, coveted by the still grasping hand of our more powerful race.

Surely a debt of no small magnitude is due from us to them. In what way can it be discharged, is a question which cannot but be interesting to every Christian mind among us.

The policy of our Government seems now to be, to obtain from the Indians cessions of the lands which were pledged to them on their removal to the west of the Mississippi, leaving to them reservations of comparatively small extent, with a view of locating them upon farms, and eventually conveying to them individually, titles to the farms upon which they may be thus located; thus breaking up the system of ownership by tribes, their immemorial system, and introducing the custom of ownership similar to that of our people; and the hope is, that the Indian may be induced to abandon the customs of his ancestors, and adopt those of the white man, and eventually be so merged in the mass of our population as to be-

come our fellow citizens. Under all the circumstances of their case, perhaps this may be the only alternative left, and the one most likely to save them from utter extinguishment.

But surely it becomes the philanthropy and the Christianity of our country to see to it, that, in this attempted plan of converting the Indian of the forest to the citizen of a civilized government, all the influences of the religion we profess, and all the advantages of the education with which we are favored, which are adapted to his case, should be extended to him.

The religious community can doubtless exert a useful influence on the Government in securing or forwarding these ends. And it is to be hoped that Friends, wherever situated in our land, will not fail of their duty in this respect.

The following extract from the report of the Commissioner of Indian affairs, laid before the present session of Congress, will serve to illustrate the plans now in operation, for the location of the Indians. The Commissioner remarks, "a change for the better seems to be taking place in the condition and prospects of the Indians of Minesota. The Chippewas of the Mississippi appear to understand and appreciate the policy and objects of the treaty, made with them in February last, by which the different bands are to be concentrated on small reservations, in suitable localities; the lands to be divided among them in severalty; and where they are required to devote themselves to industrial pursuits. Their hereditary chief, Hole in the Day, who headed the delegation to this city (Washington,) with whom the treaty was made, has set them a most excellent and commendable example, having on his return home, gone earnestly to work, and practically demonstrated to his people, the advantages of personal exertion and industry. He raised not only an abundant supply of grain and vegetables for his own family, but had a considerable surplus to dispose of, at the annuity payment, to those who had been less provident. The assembled tribe there saw and understood, in the case of one of their own people,

a leading and influential man among them, some of the advantages and benefits of a settled and industrious course of life. One of the most marked evidences of the commencement of a spirit of improvement among these people is seen in a growing disposition to dispense with the peculiar dress of the Indian, and adopt that of civilized life.

"A new treaty with the Winnebagoes, embracing the same policy was also made in February last, by which they were assigned a new and more suitable home on the Blue Earth river, south of the Minnesota, with which they were well pleased, and where nearly the whole of them have quietly and contentedly settled down. They have been more temperate and orderly than heretofore, and have manifested an encouraging disposition to give up their unsettled habits, and devote themselves to the cultivation of the soil."

It has been the concern of Friends to advise and encourage the Indians to give up the chase, and to depend upon the cultivation of the soil for the supply of their wants, and in this respect, the policy of the Government is favorable to the views of Friends.

The address to the Indians prepared by the Committee and laid before the last Yearly Meeting, has been in accordance with its direction, carefully revised, and the names of the Clerk of the Yearly Meeting and of the Committee affixed to it, and in this form it accompanies this report,—but way has not opened for its presentation to the Indians. The territory of Kanzas, where many of the Indians reside, who were more particularly in the minds of the Committee in reference to the address, has been and remains in a very disturbed state, in consequence of the violent agitation there of another question of great moment to the welfare and reputation of our common country: the question of the extension of the unrighteous system of slavery into new lands where hitherto it has not existed. Independently of the effect of such an extension upon the best interests of the Indian tribes, it is a cause of great anxiety and grief to us, and must be so to every rightly disposed mind, that a system fraught with so much of evil, should be suffered to be extended into that fair land.

We desire that Friends may be preserved from all undue excitement on these momentous questions; and that with a single eye to the only sure and safe Leader and Guide of his people, they may be found filling up fully their portion of Christian duty in all their movements in relation to them.

For the Committee—

SAMUEL TAYLOR, Jr.

Newport, 6th mo. 17th, 1856."

The Committee on the concern of this meeting for the Penobscot and Passamaquaddy tribes of Indians, presented the following report, which, with the verbal communications of the Committee, was very acceptable and encouraging. The proposition contained in the report was approved, and our Committee is continued, and requested to exert any influence in their power, either with the Indians themselves, or with the State government, which may tend to benefit these objects of our concern, viz:

"TO THE YEARLY MEETING, NOW SITTING:

The Committee on the concern of the Yearly Meeting in reference to the Penobscot and Passamaquaddy Indians, Report, that the former tribe have latterly been visited by two of our number, from whom we learn that they are still making gradual improvement in agriculture and civilization. Two schools have been in successful operation amongst them during a portion of the past year, supported by the Government of Maine. Several of their children have also attended the public schools of their white neighbors. About 100 of the children have thus been enabled to avail themselves of an elementary education, in which it is said, they have made a more rapid progress than other scholars circumstanced similarly.

Way has not opened to do much in aid of the Passamaquadies during the past year. But satisfactory information has been received from one of their number, relative to their improvement.

The contemplated school amongst them has not progressed so far as to require aid from the committee, therefore we have not drawn on the treasurer for the $50 appropriated for that purpose last year; we propose that it be however continued subject to their draft.

Signed, on behalf of the Committe,

STEPHEN JONES,
JOHN MEADER,
ELI JONES,

NEWPORT, R. I. 6th mo., 18, 1856."

In the epistle from Indiana, received at this time, a proposition is made for the establishment of a Yearly Meeting within their limits, consisting of five of their Quarterly Meetings, to be called the Western Yearly Meeting of Friends, and to be held at or near Plainfield, Hendricks County, Indiana—to be opened on Second Day after the third First Day in the 9th month, 1858. This meeting is fully united in encouraging our friends in Indiana, to proceed in this interesting matter as way opens in the Truth, and the clerk is directed to append this information to the epistle addressed to that meeting the present year.

The Committee to settle the treasurer's account make the following report, viz:

"TO THE YEARLY MEETING.

The Committee appointed to settle the treasurer's account, &c., report, they have attended to their appointment, and find a balance in his hands of four hundred and seventy-seven dollars and seventy-nine cents. They propose the sum of twelve hundred dollars to be raised for the use of the meeting, and David Buffum for treasurer.

THOMAS HARKNESS,
For the Committee.

Newport, 6th mo. 18, 1856."

Which is accepted, and our Quarterly Meetings are requested to raise their respective proportions of the sum proposed (twelve hundred dollars), and forward the same to our friend David Buffum, whom we appoint our treasurer.

The meeting for sufferings is requested to take into consideration the present accommodations afforded by the house in which our meeting is held, and to take such measurss as it may deem proper in relation to it—and that meeting is, also, requested to take any necessary care in relation to the legal title to the land upon which the house is located, or any other land required for the accommodation of the Yearly Meeting.

A testimony of Smithfield Monthly Meeting, approved by Smithfield Quarterly Meeting, concerning our late beloved friend Lydia R. Kelly, was read at this time, and the subject of it was thus brought sweetly to our remembrance. It is approved and directed, that it be recorded—and the Meeting for Sufferings is requested to cause it to be printed, together with others that have been approved by this meeting now on file.

The Committee on Education made the following report, viz:

"TO THE YEARLY MEETING.

The Committee on Education report that from accounts received from all the Monthly Meetings, they have compiled the following summary:

Number of children within the limits of the Yearly Meeting, between the ages of 4 and 16 years,	1078
Do. do. do. do. 16 and 21, -	442
Number of Monthly Meeting Schools, -	2
" Preparative " " - -	1
" Family " " - -	7
" Friend's children attending Friend's Schools exclusively as such, -	206
" Friend's children attending mixed sch'ls	1172
" First day schools kept the past year, under care of Friends, - -	22

Average continuance of these schools,	4 1-2 months.
Number of children attending same, - -	428
" " " " members of our society, - - - - -	264

It will be borne in mind, that in addition to the number above reported as attending select schools, there is a considerable number of Friend's children who are in the attendance of schools wholly or in part under the care of Friends, and who are thereby obtaining an education, under circumstances which are in a good degree calculated to shield them from the contaminating influences of the world.

Though little has been effected during the year by the Committee in a collective capacity, yet several of our number have individually labored in their several neighborhoods in furtherance of this interesting concern, both by endeavoring to diffuse correct information upon the subject, and by personal exertions to promote the practical objects of their appointment. Some of our number have attended the semi-annual examinations of the pupils at the Boarding School, much to their satisfaction. Although the advantages may appear to be self-evident, which this Institution is now calculated to afford to the youth of our society, we wish again to impress upon parents the importance of endeavoring to secure for their beloved children the benefits which we believe would result from their more general attendance of this school.

By the statistics herewith presented, it appears that the number of children who are reported as attending Friends' schools, has a little increased since last year.

We would again earnestly recommend to Friends, the importance of the establishment and proper maintenance of First Day schools under their care. A number of Monthly meetings still report no First Day school within their limits, and although many Friends are in the practice, on First Day, of collecting their children in their several families for the purpose of imparting Scriptural instruction, we believe that a

wide field is still open for greater exertion in this important concern.

While it may be cause of discouragement to many Friends, to observe the little that has been accomplished since the Yearly Meeting was first concerned to set apart a committee for the promotion of the guarded religious and literary education of our beloved youth, we would affectionately remind all such of the great importance of individual effort, and that if all whose minds have been awakened upon this subject, would endeavor in simplicity and in sincerity to do the little which may devolve upon them, their labors would be abundantly rewarded, not only by the consciousness of successful effort in the cause of education, but by the comforting persuasion that their humble endeavors had been indirectly instrumental in the promotion of the cause of truth itself.

Signed on behalf of the Committee—

JAMES DENNIS, *Clerk.*

Newport, 6th Mo. 18, 1856."

Which is satisfactory and interesting to us and our friends

Perez Peck, James Dennis, Nathan Breed, Newell Ordway, William P. Howland, Henry T. Wood, Abram Winslow, Caleb Jones, Richard Battey, Samuel H. Colton, Joseph Taber, Charles B. Cates, Isaiah Fry, Benajah Buffum, Charles M. Bailey and Reuben T. Jones, are appointed to propose to our next sitting the names of Friends (constisting of two from each Monthly Meeting,) to constitute a Committee on Education.

Adjourned to 3 o'clock to-morrow afternoon.

Fifth Day Afternoon, the 19th, at the appointed time the Meeting again assembled.

The Representatives present except three, for the absence of one of whom a sufficient reason was assigned.

We appoint Abram Winslow correspondent of Limmington Monthly Meeting, in place of Wingate Frost, deceased.

We are informed by the clerk of the Yearly Meeting of

Ministers and Elders, that our dear friend Susan Howland has been liberated to perform a religious visit within the limits of the Yearly Meetings of London and Ireland, and if way should open for it in the truth, at some places on the Continent of Europe, whereupon we appoint our friends Stephen A. Chase, William C. Taber, Samuel Boyd Tobey, David Buffum and William Penn Howland, to render any necessary care and attention in the case, on the part of this Meeting.

The Committee to attend to the distribution of a reprint of the London General Epistle, report that the service has been accomplished.

The Committee for that purpose propose the names of the following Friends to constitute a Committee on Education, who are satisfactory to us, and they are appointed accordingly and encouraged to attend to the service confided to them, in conjunction with a similar Committee of the women's meeting, and requested to report to this meeting next year, viz:

George Bowen, Joseph Macumber, Jonathan Freeborne, Chas. W. Earle, Thos. S. Gifford, Abner Slade, Samuel Austin, Caleb M. Paine, Timothy C. Collins, Abel F. Collins, Charles F. Coffin, Jr., Joseph Nichols, Josiah D. Challis, Thomas Folsom, Thomas W. Thorndike, Joseph Hoag, Stephen T. Dillingham, Newell Hoxsie, Nathan T. Shepherd, Samuel Brown, Isaac R. Potter, George W. Francis, Adrian Davis, John Macumber, Henry T. Wood, Wm R. Taber, Mathew Barney, Abm. R. Wing, Rufus Horton, Harrison Magoon, Stephen Sweet, Joseph Cartland, Oliver Pope, Elisha Jones, John Cartland, Abraham Winslow, David Babcock, John E. Fry, Samuel H. Colton, Timothy K. Earle, Wm. Cook, Wm. H. Aldrich, Eli Jones, Alfred H. Jones, Thos. B. Nichols, Joseph H. Cole, Wm. Taber, Joseph H. Pratt, Walter Sawyer, Jonathan Nutter, Albert C. Buffum, Timothy B. Hussey, Ezra Gould, Lewis Hoag, Wm. A. Samson, Levi Jones, Joseph Taylor, Isaac Winslow, Joseph Winslow and Randall Stewart.

[*Women's Committee.*—Elizabeth T. Chase, Mary Rodman, Sarah Slade, Maria Buffington, Phebe Reynolds, Mary Ann

Sisson, Electa Jane Collins, Dorcas G. Babcock, Dorcas B. Robinson, Susan Shove, Eunice B. Boyce, Anne A. Chase Mary T. Gove, Cynthia W. Huntington, Sabina A. Page, Hannah Page, Phebe Kelley, Elizabeth Dillingham, Susan Shepherd, Maria Brown, Phebe R. Gifford, Maria B. Smith, Rebecca Church, Phebe Slade, Sarah Barker, Sarah M. Easton, Anna G. Wood, Susan G. Kempton, Mary B. Osborne, Abigail Hodges, Mary R. Hadwin, Abigail Wheeler, Sarah C. Fry, Lucy Collins, Hannah Meader, Nabby Bean, Eunice J. Rich, Esther Jones, Maria Pope, Jane Pope, Nancy Frost, Anna Milliken, Lydia P. Fry, Rachel B. Nichols, Mary R. Jones, Rachel Jones, Hannah Taber, Elizabeth T. Cook, Sarah B. Roberts, Mercy Osborne, Cynthia Buffum, Hannah Morrell, Sarah Hoag, Abigail C. Beede, Cynthia F. Jones, Elizabeth G. Sampson, Phebe Taylor, Sarah Winslow, Eunice Winslow and Sarah Maria Stewart.]

The Committee on Correspondence presented essays of epistles to our brethren of the Yearly Meetings of London, Ireland, New York, Baltimore, North Carolina, Ohio and Indiana, which being approved, the clerk is directed to sign them on our behalf and forward them to those meetings respectively.

The clerk is directed to sign on our behalf the following minute for our friend Jared Patterson, and similar ones for our friends David H. Bennett, Anna Adams, Rebecca T. Updegraff, Bersheba G. Herendeen, Ann Kenworthy and Huldah H. Hoag, viz:

"Our beloved friend Jared Patterson, attended this meeting. His company and religious services have been acceptable to us."

The clerk is directed to sign on our behalf the following minute for our friend Ira Lapham, and similar minutes for our friends Henry Bull, William Kenworthy, William Hill, Ephriam B. Ratliff, David Updegraff, Esther Hathaway and Lydia Esther Knight, viz:

"Our beloved friend Ira Lapham attended this meeting. His company and solid deportment have been acceptable and satisfactory to us."

The clerk is requested to cause 3000 copies of extracts from the minutes of this meeting to be printed and distributed among our several subordinate meetings.

Having disposed of the various important concerns of the church, that have claimed our attention, in great harmony and christian unity, under a grateful sense of the mercy that has been extended to us from season to season, during all the different sessions of this meeting, with reverent thankfulness to our Heavenly Father, we now separate in love, proposing to meet again on this Island, at the usual time, next year, if the Lord permit.

SAMUEL BOYD TOBEY,
Clerk to the Meeting this year.